CLAIMS

1. A method for dealing with data recording media using a device provided with a generator of a magnetic field and a generator of an electromagnetic wave, the method comprising the steps of:

generating at least one selected from a magnetic field and an electromagnetic wave; and

applying individually one selected from the magnetic field and the electromagnetic wave or simultaneously the both to a data recording medium,

so as to erase or destroy data recorded in the medium.

10

15

20

2. A device for dealing with data recording media comprising: an excitation coil for generating a magnetic field; a magnetron for radiating an electromagnetic wave; and a receptacle adapted to accommodate a data recording medium, wherein the receptacle is made of a non-magnetic material capable of shielding the electromagnetic wave;

wherein the receptacle has an outer periphery around which the excitation coil is wound so as to induce a magnetic field within the receptacle; and

wherein the receptacle has a wall provided with the magnetron, so that the electromagnetic wave is radiated toward inside of the receptacle.

25 3. A device for dealing with data recording media comprising:

a magnetron for radiating an electromagnetic wave; and
a receptacle adapted to accommodate a data recording medium,

the receptacle being made of one selected from a non-magnetic material capable of shielding the electromagnetic wave and a magnetic material,

wherein the receptacle has a wall provided with the magnetron, so that
the electromagnetic wave is radiated toward inside of the receptacle.

- 4. The device as defined in claim 2 or 3, further comprising at least one selected from an adsorber for adsorbing gas generated from the data recording medium by radiation of the electromagnetic wave and a discharger for discharging gas generated from the data recording medium out of the receptacle.
- 5. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 4,

10

15

20

wherein the receptacle has a door made of a magnetic material, through which the data recording medium is accommodated therein and taken out thereof.

- 6. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 4, further comprising:
- a conveyor adapted to convey the data recording medium so as to extend through the receptacle; and

a door made of a magnetic material and being openable and closable at a portion where the conveyor extends through the receptacle.

- 7. The device as defined in claim 6,
- wherein the conveyor is adapted to continuously convey a plurality of the data recording media at a predetermined speed,

so that data recorded in the data recording media placed on the

conveyor is continuously erased or destroyed while the media are continuously conveyed at the predetermined speed.

8. The device as defined in claim 6,

wherein the conveyer is adapted to intermittently convey a plurality of the data recording media,

so that data recorded in the data recording media placed on the conveyor is erased or destroyed in a batch method while the media are intermittently conveyed.

10

15

5

9. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 8,

wherein the receptacle has at least a part of its outer side covered with a casing made of a magnetic material.

10. The device as defined in claim 9,

wherein the casing has at least a part of its inner surface provided with an electromagnetic wave absorbing material.

11. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 10,

wherein the magnetron is adapted to radiate an electromagnetic wave having a frequency of a microwave band within a range of 300 MHz to 300 GHz.

12. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 11,

wherein the magnetron is adapted to radiate an electromagnetic wave that is a microwave having a frequency of substantially 2.45 GHz or substantially 4.3 GHz.

13. The device as defined in one of claims 2 and 4 to 12,

being adapted to apply an attenuating alternating voltage whose peak value reduces as time passes to the excitation coil, so as to induce within the receptacle an attenuating alternating magnetic field whose peak value of magnetic flux density reduces as time passes.

14. The device as defined in one of claims 2 to 13,

wherein the receptacle is adapted to accommodate an electronic device incorporating a memory device and to destroy data stored in the memory device by radiating an electromagnetic wave to the electronic device accommodated therein.

15. A method for disposing of electronic devices, the method comprising the steps of:

generating an electromagnetic wave; and

radiating the electromagnetic wave to an electronic device, so as to mechanically destroy at least a memory device incorporated in the electronic device to prevent data stored in the memory device from being read out.

20

25

10

15

16. The method as defined in claim 15,

wherein the electronic device is adapted to mount therein another electronic device incorporating a memory device,

so that at least the memory device incorporated in the other electronic device mounted in the electronic device is mechanically destroyed by radiation of the electromagnetic wave to the electronic device so that data stored in the memory device is prevented from being read out.

- 17. A device for disposing of electronic devices comprising:
- a magnetron adapted to radiate an electromagnetic wave of a predetermined frequency at a predetermined strength; and
- a receptacle made of a magnetic material and adapted to accommodate an electronic device,

wherein the magnetron is attached to the receptacle, so as to radiate the electromagnetic wave toward inside of the receptacle.

- 18. The device as defined in claim 17, further comprising at least one selected from an adsorber for adsorbing gas generated from the electronic device by radiation of the electromagnetic wave and a discharger for discharging gas generated from the electronic device out of the receptacle.
- 15 19. The device as defined in claim 17 or 18,

5

25

wherein the receptacle has a door made of a magnetic material, through which the electronic device is accommodated therein and taken out thereof.

- 20. The device as defined in claim 17 or 18, further comprising:
- a conveyor adapted to convey the electronic device into and out of the receptacle; and
 - a plurality of doors each made of a magnetic material and being openable and closable, one door at one portion through which the electronic device is conveyed into the receptacle and another door at another portion through which the electronic device is conveyed out of the receptacle.
 - 21. The device as defined in claim 20,

wherein the conveyor is adapted to continuously convey a plurality of the electronic devices placed thereon at a predetermined speed,

so that the electronic devices are continuously destroyed while being continuously conveyed at the predetermined speed.

5

22. The device as defined in claim 20,

wherein the conveyer is adapted to intermittently convey a plurality of the electronic devices placed thereon,

so that the electronic devices are destroyed in a batch method while being intermittently conveyed.

23. The device as defined in one of claims 17 to 22,

wherein the receptacle has at least a part of its outer side covered with an outer casing made of a magnetic material.

15

24. The device as defined in claim 23,

wherein the casing has at least a part of its inner surface provided with an electromagnetic wave absorbing material.

20 25. The device as defined in one of claims 17 to 24,

wherein the magnetron is adapted to radiate an electromagnetic wave having a frequency of a microwave band within a range of 300 MHz to 300 GHz.

- 25 26. A device for dealing with data recording media comprising:
 - a receptacle adapted to destroy a data recording medium therein;
 - a conveying means for conveying an electronic device into and out of

the receptacle; and

a feeding means for feeding with the data recording medium.

27. The device as defined in claim 26,

wherein the conveying means is a conveyor, the conveyor being positioned so as to extend through the receptacle, and

further comprising a door made of a magnetic material and being openable and closable at a portion where the conveyor extends through the receptacle.

10

15

25

5

28. The device as defined in claim 26,

wherein the conveying means is a conveyor,

the conveyor being positioned so as to extend through the receptacle,

the conveyor being adapted to continuously convey a plurality of the data recording media at a predetermined speed,

so that data recorded in the data recording media placed on the conveyor is continuously erased or destroyed while the media are continuously conveyed at the predetermined speed.

20 29. The device as defined in claim 26,

wherein the conveying means is a conveyor,

the conveyor being positioned so as to extend through the receptacle,

the conveyer being adapted to intermittently convey a plurality of the data recording media,

so that data recorded in the data recording media placed on the conveyor is erased or destroyed in a batch method while the media are intermittently conveyed.

30. A device for dealing with data recording media comprising:

a magnetron adapted to radiate an electromagnetic wave having a frequency of a microwave band within a range of 300 MHz to 300 GHz;

an excitation coil for generating a magnetic field;

5

10

15

20

a receptacle adapted to accommodate a data recording medium; and a discharger,

wherein the receptacle is made of a non-magnetic material capable of shielding the electromagnetic wave;

wherein the receptacle has a door made of a magnetic material, through which the data recording medium is accommodated therein and taking out thereof;

wherein the receptacle has an outer periphery around which the excitation coil is wound,

wherein the device is adapted to apply an attenuating alternating voltage whose peak value reduces as time passes to the excitation coil, so as to induce an attenuating alternating magnetic field whose peak value of magnetic flux density reduces as time passes within the receptacle;

wherein the receptacle has a wall provided with the magnetron, so that the electromagnetic wave is radiated toward inside of the receptacle; and

wherein the discharger is adapted to discharge gas generated from the data recording medium out of the receptacle.